

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
ACCOMPANYING THE FILING OF A DIVISIONAL APPLICATION**

APPLICANTS: Carsten Schuh and Wilhelm Hekele
ATTORNEY'S
DOCKET NO.: P99,0663-01
TITLE: "ELECTRONIC OR ELECTRICAL COMPONENT WITH
A PLASTIC-PASSIVATED SURFACE AND METHOD
OF PRODUCTION THEREOF"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, please replace the section "TITLE" with the following sections:

--TITLE

"METHOD FOR PRODUCING AN ELECTRONIC OR ELECTRICAL
COMPONENT WITH A PLASTIC-PASSIVATED SURFACE"

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

The present application is a division of U.S. Serial No. 09/295,917, filed April
21, 1999.--

On page 1, please amend the paragraph starting at line 17 to read as follows:

--It is often necessary to passivate sensitive electronic components such as piezoactuators in order to insulate their surfaces electrically and to protect their surfaces from contamination or mechanical damage. This is achieved among other ways in that the component is provided with a protective housing made of plastic. The plastic is deposited on the structural element absent cross-linking. The actual protective layer is built by the polymerization or vulcanization of the plastic. The deposition of the non-cross-linked plastic occurs by immersion, by spraying or in the injection molding process. For these techniques to be possible, the utilized plastics must have a sufficiently low viscosity.--

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the Abstract with the Abstract of the Disclosure on the attached unnumbered page.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 15-22, without prejudice.

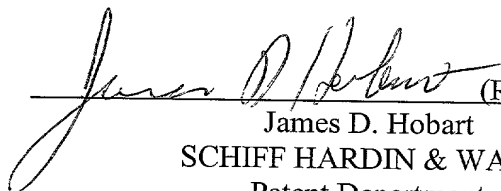
REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are presented for consideration.

In the prosecution of the parent application, claims 1-14 were divided-out as being directed to the non-elected invention, which was the method of producing. By this amendment, the title has been amended to be directed to the method of producing an electronic or electrical component with a plastic-passivated surface and a cross-reference to the parent application has been made. In addition, the amendments made to page 1 and to the Abstract during prosecution of the parent application are also being made by the present preliminary amendment.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-14 are patentable over the references of record in the parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATED: November 1, 2001

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A simple method for passivation of a component is presented which is particularly suitable for processing high-viscosity plastics. The component is arranged in a preproduced plastic body and is connected to the body. This method is proposed for the production of a piezoactuator arrangement, which is utilized for controlling injection valves in internal-combustion engines. The plastic consists of solid silicone and/or fluorinated silicone elastomer.

1000755-140404

APPENDIX

Version with markings to show changes made.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, paragraph starting at line 17:

--It is often necessary to [passivated] passivate sensitive electronic components such as piezoactuators in order to insulate their surfaces electrically and to protect their surfaces from contamination or mechanical damage. This is achieved among other ways in that the component is provided with a protective housing made of plastic. The plastic is deposited on the structural element absent cross-linking. The actual protective layer is built by the polymerization or vulcanization of the plastic. The deposition of the non-cross-linked plastic occurs by immersion, by spraying or in the injection molding process. For these techniques to be possible, the utilized plastics must have a sufficiently low viscosity.--

IN THE ABSTRACT:

[ABSTRACT]

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[A method for producing an electrotechnical component with a plastic-passivated surface, said component, and the application of this component are disclosed. Conventional methods for plastic passivation of the surface of an electrotechnical component require a relatively high technical outlay, and these methods, such as injection molding, are designed particularly for the processing of low-viscosity plastics.] A simple method for passivation of a component is presented which is particularly suitable for processing high-viscosity plastics. The component is arranged in a preproduced plastic body and is connected to the body. This method is proposed for the production of a piezoactuator arrangement, which is utilized for controlling injection valves in internal-combustion engines. The plastic consists of solid silicone and/or fluorinated silicone elastomer.